

## Message Text

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REPORTER: SO THE MEMORANDUM WILL NOT BE SUBMWTTTEB CCBOGE  
CABINET TODAY?

PHICHA: THE CABINET OR THE PRIME MINISTER MIGHT PUT

QUESTIONS TO ME, BUT HADN'T MADE ANY PREPARATIONS TO SUBMIT  
DETAILS YET.

REPORTER: DO YOU HAVE TO WAIT FOR VIEWS OF OFFICIALS FIRST?

PHICHA: WHAT DO YOU MEAN BY OFFICIALS? I HELD TALKS WITH  
OFFICIALS OF MY MINISTRY LAST MY MINISTRY LAST NIGHT. I ONLY  
RECEIVED THE MEMORANDUM YESTERDAY EVENING, END I STARTED  
STUDYING AND ANALYZING IT AT ONCE, CONTINUING UP TO LATE  
AT NIGHT.

REPORTER: AND HAVE YOU SEEN WHETHER THE SUGGESTIONS MADE ARE  
USEFUL OR NOT?

PHICHA: I CANNOT ANSWER YOUR QUESTION, BECAUSE IT IS ON  
TECHNIQUES, ON MILITARY TECHNIQUES, AGAIN.

REPORTER: DOES THAT MEAN THAT THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS  
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HAS POLICY GIVEN IT BY THE MILITARY IN REGARD TO THIS MATTER?

PHICHA: NO. NOT AT ALL. AS I HAVE INFORMED YOU CONSTANT-  
LY AND CONTINUALLY, FOREIGN POLICY MUST LEAD THE MILITARY.

THE MILITARY CANNOT COME AND TELL US WHAT WE MUST DO. I AM COOPERATING VERY CLOSELY WITH THE MINISTRY OF DEFENSE, OR THE MILITARY, AND THE LATTER FULLY UNDERSTAND EVERYTHING.

REPORTER: IT IS NOTICEABLE THAT AFTER THE U.S. MADE SUGGESTIONS THAT VIEWS WERE EXPRESSED WITH A TENDENCY FOR THAIS TO DEMAND FOR BASES...

PHICHA: THAT IS ONLY VERY ORDINARY, BECAUSE THE CONSTITUTION GIVES PEOPLE -- THAIS - THE OPPORTUNITY...

REPORTER: MIGHT NOT THEY BE THE SAME GROUP?

PHICHA: EH\* I DON'T KNOW. I REALLY DON'T KNOW. I, TOO, HAVE SOME LEAFLETS THAT HAVE BEEN BROUGHT AND PLACED HERE ON MY TABLE.

REPORTER: WILL THIS LEAD TO TAKING IT UP FOR CONSIDERATION?

PHICHA: NO. SHOULD I LISTEN TO AND TAKE UP FOR CONSIDERATION VIEWS EXPRESSED BY ONE SIDE, THEN DIFFERENT VIEWS ALTOGETHER EXPRESSED BY ANOTHER SIDE, I WOULDN'T BE ABLE TO PERFORM WORK AND MY DUTIES AT ALL. I MUST TAKE A FIRM AND DEFINITE STAND. SHOULD ANYTHING BE BENEFICIAL FOR OUR COUNTRY, I WOULD CONSIDER IT AND I WOULD ALIGN ACTIVITIES IN ACCORDANCE WITH IT. IN OTHER WORDS, I WILL ADOP A STAND THAT IS AS MIDDLE-OF-THE-ROAD AS POSSIBLE. BUT SHOULD I LISTEN TO AND BELIEVE VIEWS EXPRESSED BY A., THEN LISTEN TO AND BELIEVE TOTALLY DIFFERENT VIEWS EXPRESSED BY B., I WOULDN'T BE ABLE TO PERFORM ANY WORK WHATSOEVER.

REPORTER: IN THAT CASE, WHAT ABOUT THE ADVICE GIVEN BY THE NSCT...

PHICHA: ANY ADVICE OR SUGGESTIONS EXPRESSED MUST BE LISTENED TO, ADVICE AND SUGGESTIONS EXPRESSED BY ANYBODY AND EVERYBODY. BUT WHEN IT COMES TO DECISIONS REACHED ON WHAT UNCLASSIFIED

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MOVES OR ACTIONS TO BE TAKEN, I TAKE A MIDDLE-OF-THE-ROAD STAND.

REPORTER: IN THE PRESS CONFERNCE GIVEN BY PRIME MINISTER SENI LAST NIGHT, THE STATEMENTS HE MADE WERE EXACTLY THE SAME AS THE ADVICE GIVEN YOU BY THE NSCT YESTERDAY. IF THERE IS ANYTHING THAT IS NOT ACCEPTED, IT WILL BE DISCLOSED AND THE THAI PEOPLE INFORMED OF IT. IS THAT CORRECT?

PHICHA: YES, THAT'S CORRECT. AFTER DECISIONS HAVE BEEN REACHED IN FULL, I WILL DISCLOSE DETAILS, BUT I CANNOT DISCLOSE THEM NOW.

REPORTER: WHY CAN'T THEY BE DISCLOSED BEFOREHAND? AFTER DECISIONS HAVE BEEN REACHED, SHOULD IT BE SEEN...

PHICHA: NO, NO. SOME MOVES MUST BE KEPT SECRET TEMPORARILY, MEANING WHILE NEGOTIATIONS ARE BEING HELD. A COMPARISON THAT CAN BE MADE IS WHEN A GOVERNMENT IS BEING FORMED, NOBODY CAN DISCLOSE WHO IS UNDER CONSIDERATION AND WHO IS BEING SOUNDED FOR WHAT POSITION.

REPORTER: THE LAST STATEMENT MADE BY THE AMERICAN AMBASSADOR, BEFORE THE END OF THE TERM OF OFFICE OF THE FORMER GOVERNMENT, WAS: "WE WILL NOT REMAIN ANYWHERE WE ARE NOT WANTED." THEREFORE, WHAT DO THE DEMANDS THAT ARE BEING MADE NOW MEAN?

PHICHA: THERE IS NO QUESTIONHNNNOVOER AS TO WHETHER THEY WILL REMAIN HERE OR NOT. IT DOES NOT CONCERN THAT AT ALL. AMERICAN MILITARY TECHNICIANS MUST BE WITHDRAWN. WE HAVE ASSERTED THAT THEY MUST BE PULLED OUT.

REPORTER: DOES THAT MEAN THAT THIS LATEST PROPOSAL IS ONLY REGARDING SOME EQUIPMENT THEY WILL GIVE US?

PHICHA: AND IT MUST BE USEFUL FOR OUR COUNTRY. THEREFORE, I AM CONCENTRATING ON CONSIDERING WHAT IS REALLY USEFUL.

REPORTER: AND NONE OF THEIR SERVICEMEN WILL CONTINUE REMAINING HERE?  
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PHICHA: THERE IS NO WAY FOR ANY TECHNICIANS TO CONTINUE REMAINING HERE, CLAIMING ANY RIGHTS WHATSOEVER.

REPORTER: WHAT REASON IS GIVEN FOR PULLING OUT, BUT LEAVING EQUIPMENT HERE?

PHICHA: OH\* THAT IS BECAUSE WE ARE FRIENDS. WE MIGHT CONSIDER... I HAVE ALREADY GIVEN YOU AN EXAMPLE -- THAT OF A RADIO GIVEN US. WHEN WE TURN ON THE RADIO, WE CAN LISTEN TO PROGRAMS OF MUSIC BROADCAST, AND THAT IS FAIRLY ENTERTAINING. BUT I AM NOT CERTAIN REGARDING EQUIPMENT THAT WILL BE GIVEN US, BECAUSE I, TOO, AM AFRAID IT MIGHT TURN OUT TO BE ONLY SCRAP IRON.

REPORTER: DOES THE DEMOCRAT PARTY HAVE TO COORDINATE COOPERATION REGARDING JOINT SECURITY BETWEEN THAILAND AND THE U.S.?

PHICHA: THERE IS NO COOPERATION. HOW CAN THERE BE, AND IN WHAT WAY?

REPORTER: MILITARY COOPERATION, OR SOMETHING LIKE THAT WHICH EXISTS?

PHICHA: WHAT FORM OF MILITARY COOPERATION IS THERE  
BETWEEN THAILAND AND THE U.S.? THER IS NONE AT ALL.

REPORTER: WHAT ABOUT THE THANAT-RUSK JOINT STATEMENT?

PHICHA: THAT JOINT STATEMENT... IT CONCERNS SEATO, DOESN'T  
IT?

REPORTER: IT CONCERNS JOINT SECURITY, COOPERATION IN COLLECTING  
AND SHARING INTELLIGENCE REPORTS, ETC., ETC. DOESN'T THAT  
COME WITHIN THE SCOPE OF MILITARY COOPERATION?

PHICHA: REGARDING THE THANAT-RUSK COMMUNIQUE, REGARDLESS  
WHAT IT SPECIFIES, HOW IT WAS DRAFTED, AND FOR WHAT REASON WE  
KNOW WHAT IS WHAT. I SAY IT IS NOT CONCERNED.

REPORTER: BUT AMERICA INCLUDES IT IN COOPERATION FOR THE  
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SAFEGUARDING OF JOINT SECURITY?

PHICHA: THERE IS NOTHING IN IT CONCERNING THE ISSUE OF  
JOINT SECURITY. IF CONCERNS THE MANILA PACT AND SEATO, AND  
THAT THANAT-RUSK JOINT STATEMENT ONLY EMPHASIZES COOPERATION  
BASED UNDER SEATO. I DON'T SEE ANYTHING ELSE IN IT.

REPORTER: DOES THAT MEAN THAT IT IS ESPECIALLY IN OUR  
INTERESTS, THAT IT DOES NOT CONCERN COMPILING AND SHARING  
INTELLIGENCE REPORTS JOINTLY WITH AMERICA?

PHICHA: IT CONCERNS US. I DON'T KNOW WHAT INTELLIGENCE  
REPORTS ARE OBTAINED BY US. THEY MIGHT BE OF USE TO US, TO  
MALAYSIA, SINGAPORE, AND TO ASEAN, BUT I DON'T KNOW. WE MUST  
PLACE OUR INTERESTS ABOVE ALL ELSE IN ANY AND ALL  
MATTERS.  
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